Note—The numeration of these articles is continued from p. 381 of the Journal for 1904.

IV.

26. Akbar's Copper Coins of Ahmadābād. (With plate).

In the five years that have elapsed since my article on "The Coins of Ahmadābād" was written for the Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, considerable additional material has come to light, thus rendering it possible for me now to supplement, and in some few particulars to modify, the account then given. Only the other day I noticed for the first time that the Akbarī Fulūs struck at Ahmadābād in the Ilahī years 41 and 42, though of identical type with that of Ilahī 39, differed from my copper coins of Ilahī 40. These last, on the other hand, were not Fulus at all but Tankas of the same type as the coins struck in Ilahī 44 and 46. This discovery set me on a thorough reexamination of all the specimens now in my possession, with the resultant conviction that the copper coins assigned in the aforementioned article to the year 40 had been misread, and should have been attributed to the years 45 (the $rac{1}{6}$ = 45, not 40). In order to rectify this mistake and the errors consequent upon it, and with a view to bringing under contribution the most recent information on the subject, I now submit the following description of the Akbari copper coins of Ahmadabad:-

The copper coins that issued from the Aḥmadābād Mint in the name of the Emperor Akbar were of three kinds—the Fulūs, the Tanka and the Tānkī or Tănki. All were round coins, and each bore on its obverse its distinctive designation.

A.—THE FULUS.

Whole Fulus: weight, 320 grains: diameter, 85 to 9 inch.

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 ,, , , 160 ,, , , .7 inch. $\frac{1}{4}$,, , , 80 ,, , , .6 inch.

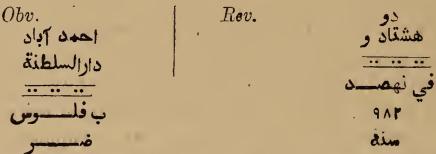
Of the Fulus three varieties were successively current.

I. The Fulus struck on Akbar's subjugation of Gujārāt in H. 980 bore the following legends (Fig. 1):—

Obv.	ا حدد اباد	Rev.	مشتاد
	فلـــوس		نهصدو
	ا ضـــرب		سنسة

but this variety was issued only during the years H. 980 and 981. A half Fulus of this type is in Mr. Nelson Wright's cabinet.

II. In H. 982 and thereafter for several years the Fulūs exhibited a design more elaborate and ornate (Fig 2). On the obverse the honorific epithet Dār-al-saltanat was associated with the mint name Aḥmadābād, and across both the obverse and the reverse was inscribed a diameter of dots flanked both above and below by a straight line Thus:—



III. In supersession of this variety there appeared in the year Ilahī 38 (H. 1001), or perhaps earlier, a third form of Fulūs (Fig. 3.) of a markedly different design, the reverse inscription being entirely new. From the obverse legend both the technical term and the mint's title Dār-al-salṭanat are omitted, so that only the two words Fūlus Aḥmadābād survive. On the reverse above the dotted and linear diameter the term Ilahī is written in full, with its final ye swooping backwards right across the coin, while to the right we have in figures the year of issue dating from the Ilahī era. The lower half of the reverse is reserved for the Persian name of the month of issue. Thus:—

My cabinet contains a sub-variety of this type of Fulūs (Fig 4) in which the ornamental diameter composed of dots and lines is wanting on both obverse and reverse.

Mr. Framji also possesses a Fulūs of this type (b) of the same year but of the month Dai.

A second sub-variety (Fig. 5) is represented in my collection but again by only a single specimen. This coin differs but slightly from the normal type (a). The final ye of the word Ilahī in the reverse legend is now protruded instead of retracted, and the figures indicating the Ilahī year of issue are placed not to the right but to the left. Thus:—

(c) Obv. Same as (a)
$$Rev. \quad PA = \frac{1}{1 + 1}$$

Two remarkable specimens of the Fulus are entered in the Indian Museum (Cal.) Catalogue. The obverse of each of the two is identical with that of A. III (a). The reverse, however, in one of the coins exhibits the two halves of the reverse of A. III (a) in inverted position, the normal upper half occupying the lower portion of this coin, and the normal lower half the upper portion. Thus

which is only partially legible, is entered as Both these coins

are of so exceptional a character that a full account of them is much to be desired.

B.—THE TANKA.

The earliest known specimen of an Akbarī tanka from the Aḥmadābād mint is dated the month Amardād of the Ilahī year 44, (Fig. 6). The tanka, in one or other of its denominations (large, small, $\frac{1}{4}$ small), issued from that mint during the next two years. Its legends read as follows:—

The reverse inscription is thus, it will be seen, of a type identical with that on the special variety of Fulūs denoted above as A. III (b).

It may here be remarked that the sub-divisions, whether of the Fulūs or of the Tanka, are not expressed on the coins themselves. A Fulūs and similarly the Tanka, of any denomination, large or small, is styled simply a Fulūs or Tanka and is so inscribed.

C.—THE TANKI OR TANKI.

 Chau Tānkī:
 weight, 250 grains:
 diameter, '8 inch.

 Do
 ,,
 ,,
 .65 ,,

 Yak
 ,,
 ,62 ,,
 ,,
 .5 ,,

The year Ilahi 46 witnessed the last change that was to be made in Akbar's copper coinage at Aḥmadābād. From that year till the close of his reign the Tānkī took the place of the Tanka (Fig. 7 and 8). The new coin was issued in three denominations, known as the Chan (or Four) Tānkī, the Do (or Two), and the Yak (or One), and on each was inscribed its own special designation. With this exception the legend on

the Tanki was the same as on the Tanka, the component words, however, being differently arranged. Thus:—

Two specimens of a Yak Tănki (not Tānki) are known, one in Mr. Wright's cabinet and the other in my own. These exhibit on the reverse a still further variation in the arrangement of the words. Thus (fig 9.)—

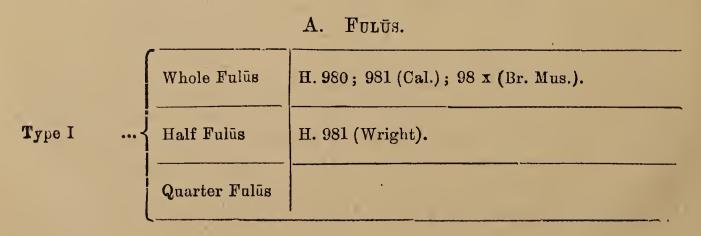
The year of issue is probably 49, but on both the specimens the figures are almost entirely obliterated.

In my collection are also two specimens of "mules," each dated Ilahī 44, Amardād, and bearing on both faces a legend identical with the normal reverse of a Tanka. Thus:—

The weight of one is 634 grains, and of the other 317, whence we may infer that they are in fact a large Tanka and small Tanka spoiled by some misadventure in the process of minting.

The following list registers all the dated Akbari coins of Aḥmadā-bād known to me. It also includes those coins of the rarer denominations whose dates are wholly or partially illegible.

N.B.—In this list the expression, say 45 (2, 3, 4, 7) indicates coins of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th months of the Ilahī year 45, that is to say, coins dated Ardibīhisht, Khūrdād, Tīr, and Mihr of Ilahī 45: and a like meaning, mutatis mutandis, attaches to all the other expressions having the same form. Thus xx (x) denotes a coin of an unknown month of an unknown (Ilahī) year.



_		
Type II	Whole Fulūs	H. 982; 983; 984; 985; 986; 987; 988. Also 994 (Lahor); 995 (Lāhor).
	Half Fulūs	
	Quarter Fulüs	Н. 985.
Type III (a)	Whole Fulūs	Ilalī 38 (8); ? 39 (4) 3x (11); ? 40 (12); ? 41 (6); 42 (5).
	Half Fulūs	
	Quarter Fulūs.	
	Whole Fulūs; Ilah Whole Fulūs: Ilah	nī 38 (10) [Framjī]; 38 (11). nī 38 (8).
		D WINE

B. TANKA.

	Large	Ilahī 44 (5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12); 45 (3, 4, 5, 7), 46 (2). "Mule." 44 (5).
Tanka	Small	Ilahī 44 (5, 8, 9, 11); ? 45 (1); 45 (2, 3, 4, 7 x); 46 (3). "Mule." 44 (5).
	Half Small	Ilahī 45 (4); 4 x (1); x x (4, 5, 12, x).
	Quarter Small	Ilahī 44 (5, x); x x (x).

C. TANKI.

	Chau Tānkī	46 (9); 47 (1); ? 48 (2); 48 (4, 7, 9 x); 49 (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12); 50 (1, 3, 5); 5 x (2, 4, 6, 7).		
Type I (a)	Do Tānkī	46 (11); 47 (4); 4 x (10); 5 x (4); x x (1, 6, x).		
	Yak Tānkī	x x (x).		

Type I (b). Yak Tănkī: ? 49 (9).

From this list it will be seen that within the limits of Akbar's

reign the following periods are still unrepresented by any copper coin of Aḥmadābād:—

The coins as at present known may thus be roughly classified as follows.

Period.		Class.		Denomination.		
H. 980, 981	• • •	Fulūs I	5	Whole F	ulūs; Half	Fulūs.
H. 982—988	•••	Fulūs II	•••	Whole F	ulūs ; Quart	er fulū s.
H. 989—993	•••	D	е	e s	t.	
H. 994, 995	•••	Fulūs II		Whole fo	ılū s .	
H. 996—Il. 38 (7)	•••	D	· е	e s	t.	
Il. 38 (8)— 42 (5)	•••	Fulūs III, a) or	b) or c)	Whole F	ulūs.	
Il. 42 (6)—44 (4)	•••	D	е	e s	t.	-
Il. 44 (5)—46 (2)	•••	Tanka		Large; S Quarter	Small; Hal Small.	f Small;
Il 46 (3)—46 (8)	An e	D	е	e s	t.	
Il 46 (9)—50 (7)	•••	Tānkī or Tănkī	I (a or b)	Chau; I	o; Yak.	

GEO. P. TAYLOR.

27. A New Mint of Aurangzeb.

R.

Weight, 177 grains.

Mint, Purbandar.

Date, $1116-4\times$.

^{*} It should be borne in mind that in the year H. 991 coins were struck at Aḥmadābād, by the ex-Sultān, Muzaffar III, during the five months of his resumed sovereignty.

ماذوس ماذوس میمنت ه ه سنه جلوس ضرب پر بندر

This rupee turned up in a find of 129 coins in the Bhandāra district of the Central Provinces. The mint may probably be identified with Purbandar, commonly spelt Porbandar, a town on the west coast of Kathiāwār, long. 70° lat. 22° and a port of importance in early times: cf. Elliot's History of India, Vol. I, p. 444. It is not far from Junagarh which was a well-known mint in the reign of Aurangzeb.

Two other coins only from this mint are known—one in the Cabinet of Mr. G. B. Bleazby of Allahābād, and the other in the Cabinet of Dr. G. P. Taylor of Ahmadābād. The former is of the reign of Shāh Alam Bahādur Shāh, the latter of Farrukhsiyar dated A. H. 1128—

H. N. WRIGHT.

28. Coins of the Murshidābād Mint between 1748 and 1793 A.D. (With plate.)

Great difficulty has always been felt in distinguishing between the native coinage of the Murshidābād mint during the early days of the East India Company's administration of Bengal and the Company's own coinage. There appears to be no record shewing exactly when the native coinage ended and the Company's issues began.

A few facts only stand out definitely.

We know that in 1757, after the recapture of Calcutta, the Company received permission to establish a mint in Calcutta, and coins are known of 1171 A.H. (1757-8) bearing the mint name "Calcutta."

It is further known that in 1765 (1178-79), after the battle of Buxār, the Company assumed the right of coinage in Bengal.

From Regulation XXXV of 1793 we learn that the mints at "Patna, Dacca and Murshidābād" were withdrawn "soon after the commencement of the Company's administration," and that the coinage of sicca rupees was confined thereafter to Calcutta. The latest rupee, so far

1 Mr. Thurston in his paper on the "History of the East India Company Coinage" [J.A.S.B. 1893, p. 61], in talking of the copper coinage, mentions 1772 as the date of withdrawal. He states no authority for this date. The facts I mention indicate an earlier one.

known, bearing the name Calcutta, is of the year 1176 A.H. = 1762-3. Cf. Brit. Mus. Cat. No. 67, p. 277. It is generally supposed that this name was discontinued and Murshidābād substituted when the Company assumed the right of coinage in Bengal; that from 1765 (1178-9 A.H.), till the native mint at Murshidābād was closed, coins were issued bearing the mint name Murshidābād from both the Murshidābād and Calcutta Mints, and that the latter were probably an imitation of the former. Certain facts have, however, come to light which seem to render it doubtful whether the issue of Murshidābād native style rupees from the two mints was ever carried on simultaneously, at any rate prior to 1792 A.D. when a mint was re-established at Murshidābād.

The most recent paper dealing with this subject is a very useful one by Mr. J. M. C. Johnston in the Numismatic Chronicle of 1903, Part I, p. 71. Mr. Johnston says on pp. 75-76:—

"There is little doubt but that the Nawāb of Bengal continued to strike coins at his own mint at Murshidābād side by side with the Company's coins, which bore the same mint name, but were probably struck at Calcutta. The result is that for some years coins of native fabric appear side by side with others struck in a collar in European style, all bearing the mint name Murshidābād."

"In the native style it is impossible to say whether the coins were actually struck by the Nawāb or by the Company, but, as the Province was then under the control of the East India Company, it seems reasonable to place all the coins with the mint Murshidābād after the Hijrah date 1177, or with a higher regnal year than six of the nominal reign of Shāh' Alam, under the British series. All with earlier dates would naturally fall to the Moghul issues."

The classification suggested by Mr. Johnston is a practical one, as coins struck in and after 1765 (1178-9 A.H.) though issued from the Murshidābad mint must have been issued with the permission, tacit or otherwise, of the East India Company, and may therefore rightly be regarded as Company's coins. I venture, however, to hazard the suggestion that the Calcutta mint did not commence to issue Murshidābād native-style rupees until the Murshidābād mint was closed.

A hoard containing, among other coins, 119 native-style rupees of Shāh'Alam, bearing the mint name Murshidābād, has recently been acquired by Government as treasure-trove, and I have had the opportunity of examining them as Honorary Numismatist to the Asiatic Society. The hoard was discovered in the Dinājpur district of the province of Bengal and contains the following specimens of Murshidābād rupees of Shāh' Alam in native style, which give both the Hijra date on the obverse and the regnal year on the reverse.

Regnal year.	А.Н.		A.D.	Number	•
			11.15.	coin	s.
2	1175	=	1761-62	•••	1
3 (1175-6)	1176	=	1762-63	•••	2
5 (1177-8)	1178	=	1764-65	•••	2
7 (1179-80)	1180	0	1766-67	•••	4
8 (1180-81)	1181	=	1767-68	•••	1
9 7 (1101.00)	1181	=	1767-68	• • •	1
$\frac{3}{9}$ $\left\{ (1181-82) \right\}$	1182	=	1768-69	•••	7
10 (1182-83)	1183	=	1769-70	•••	9
12)	1185	=	1771-72	•••	2
12 (1184-85)	1186	=	1772-73	•••	1
15)	1189	=	1775-76	•••	2
15 (1187-88)	11 90 .	=	1776-77		3
19)	1191	=	1777-78	•••	1
19	1192	=	1778-79	•••	4
19	1194	223	1780	•••	1
19	1197	=	1782-83	• • •	2
19 \((1191-92)	1199	=	1784-85	•••	1
19	1201	=	1787-88	•••	2
19	1202	==	1788-89		2
19)	1205	=	1791-92	•••	2

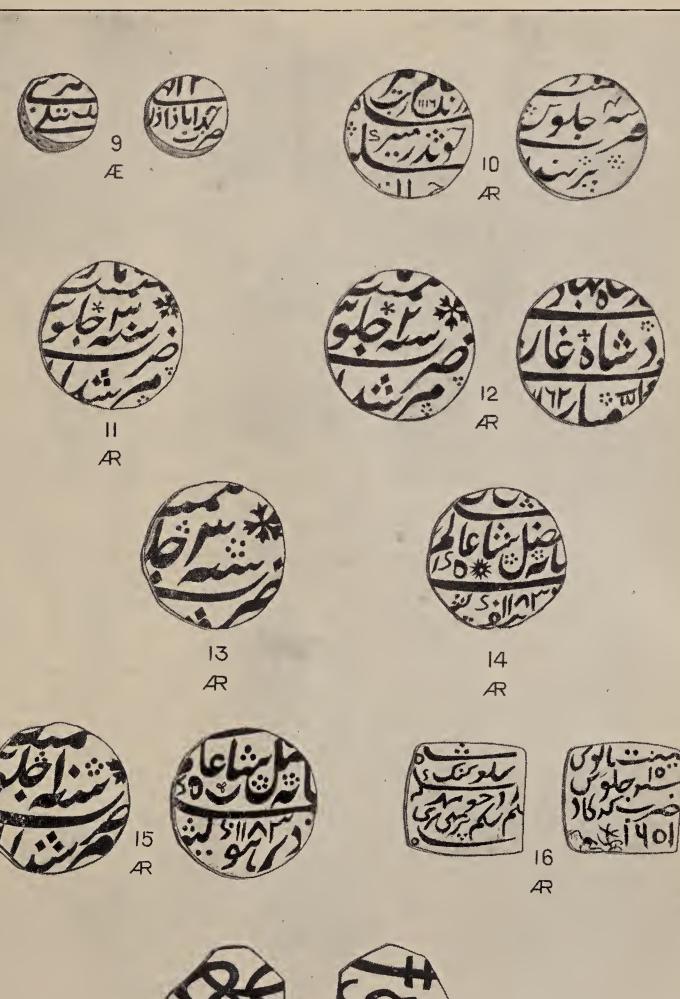
It will be observed from the above list that, taking the first regnalyear of Shāh'Alam as counting from 4th Jumāda I, 1173 (the day of his accession) to 3rd Jumāda I, 1174 and so on, the Hijra dates are correctly given on the coins up to the 10th year. The British Museum possesses a rupee in native style of the 11th year, also with a correct Hijra date 1184. From the 12th year, however, the Hijra dates on the obverse no longer correspond in all cases with the regnal years given on the reverse. For instance, the date 1186 is found on a rupee of the 12th year which closed on 3rd Jumāda I, 1185; and, similarly, 1189 and 1190 appear on coins of the 15th regnal year which closed in 1188. The presumption is that no native style rupees were struck in the 13th, 14th,1 16th, 17th and 18th regnal years bearing the correct regnal years. This is strengthened by a sentence in the regulation of 1793 in which it is stated that, while the 19 san rupee is the established coin of the country, "the rupees of the eleventh, twelfth, and fifteenth san were directed to be considered current equally with the 19th san sicca rupee."

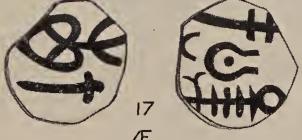
I find on p. 107 of the Catalogue of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, a coin which is assigned to the year 14; but it seems doubtful from the legend given whether 14 is not a misprint for 10.

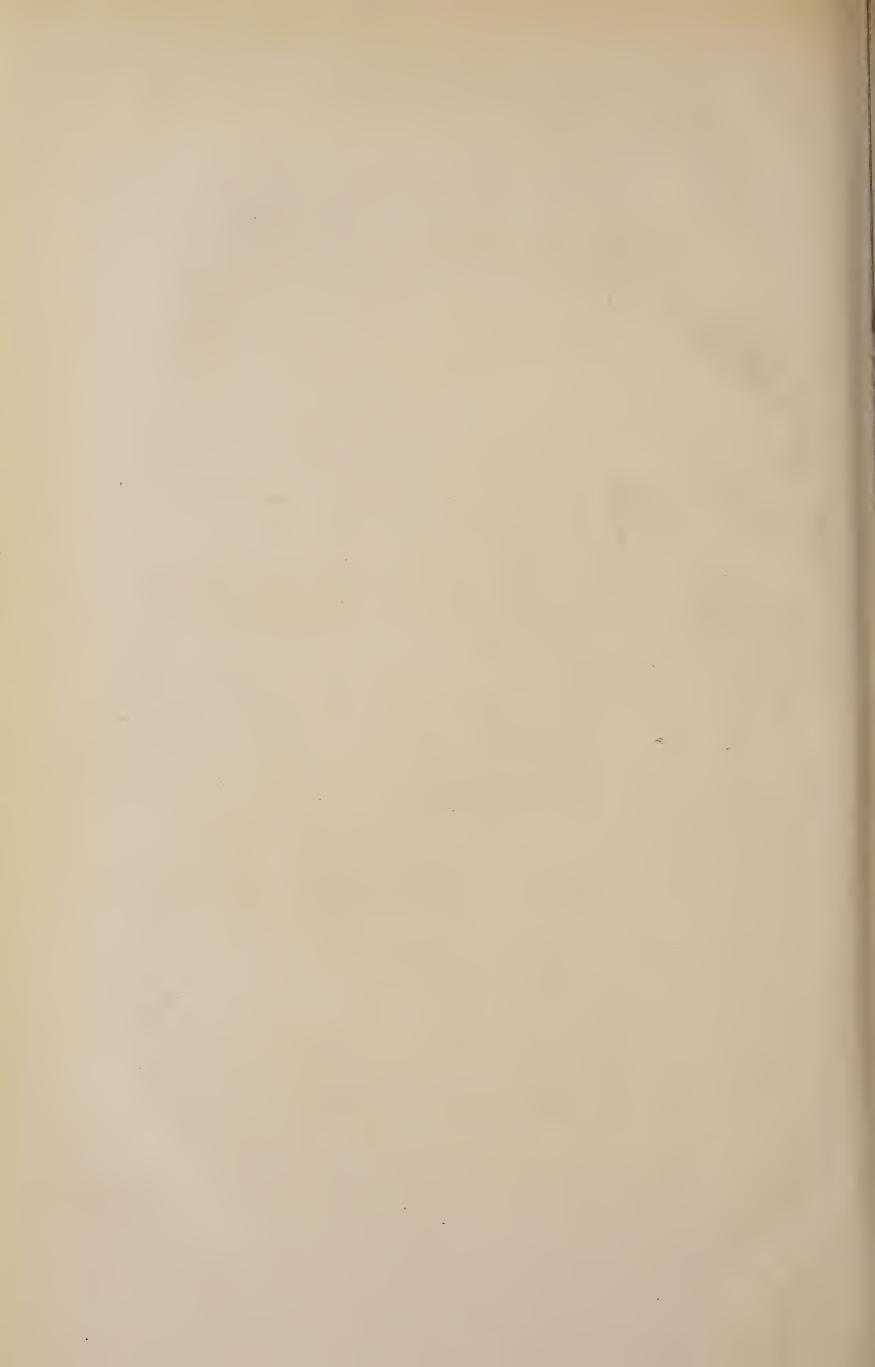
This latter sentence suggests the question: if rupees of the 11th, 12th and 15th san were to be considered current along with the 19th san rupee, why should rupees of earlier sanwāt have been excluded, if equally struck in the Calcutta mint? A possible answer is, I think, disclosed by a close examination of the earlier Murshidabad rupees. The coins of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th years in the Dinajpur find bear, without exception, on the obverse, between the upward curve of the U of فضل and the s of ها a mint mark which is probably meant to represent a rayed sun. Out of 19 rupees of the 10th year, however, only three coins bear this mark. In the other 16 it is replaced by a crescent. This crescent is borne on all the rupees of the 12th (7), 15th (12) and 19th (51) san. Quære: Does the change from the sun to the crescent mark the closing of the Murshidabad mint and the transfer of the coinage of Murshidabad rupees to the Calcutta. mint? It is of course possible that this change in mint marks was only a consequence of a change in mint masters, but it is often a straw which shews the way the wind blows, and the suggestion I have thrown out seems to some extent supported by other circumstantial evidence. We know that the Murshidabad mint was not closed till "soon after the commencement of the Company's administration," i.e., soon after 1765 (the 6-7th year of Shāh'Alam's reign). We find that the earliest European style coinage (indubitably from the Calcutta mint) begins in the 10th year or 1768-9 A.D. (see No. 25 of Mr. Johnston's list); and, thirdly, we have the exclusion in 1793 from the currency of rupees of years prior to the 11th regnal year of Shah-'Alam. (It would be natural to exclude the Calcutta-struck rupees of the 10th year because their inclusion would render difficult the exclusion of the Murshidabad-struck rupees of the same year, and the intention of the legislature seems to have been to render obsolete all native mint coins). These three points may not individually be strong ones, but when taken together and in combination with the change of mint mark also in the 10th regnal year of Shah'Alam, they seem to me sufficient to warrant an inference that the coinage of native style Murshidabad rupees was transferred to Calcutta in 1768 or 1769, and that probably before that date the issue of those coins was confined to Murshidābād.

The Dinājpur find is also interesting in another way. Mr. Johnston, on p. 76 of his paper, suggests another method of distinguishing between native issues and Company's coinage. He says: "Fortunately

¹ The sun mint mark first appears on the coins of Murshidābād in the reign of 'Alamgir II. (1168 A. H.) and continued without interruption till the 10th year of Shah'Alam (1183) A.H.







there is a further distinction than that of date to be drawn between the late Moghul issues, and the continuation of the same series under the Company's rule; it is in the fact that for the first time the latter bear on the reverse the "cinquefoil" a mint mark apparently instituted at Calcutta and adopted at Murshidābād when the Company took over the mint with the administration of the district. The presence, therefore, of this mint mark on a coin bearing the Murshidābād mint name, can be can be taken as evidence that the coin should be classed in the British series."

It is true that the "cinque foil" appears on the earliest Calcutta rupee known (No. 1 in the list appended to Mr. Johnston's paper). The Dinājpur find, however, contains the following rupees of Murshidābād mint bearing, either in whole or part, the "cinque foil" mark, viz., one rupee of Muhammad Shāh of 30th regnal year, six rupees of Ahmad Shāh of 2nd (3), 3rd, 5th and 6th regnal years, and five rupees of Shāh'Alam of the 2nd, 3rd (2) and 5th (2) regnal years, i.e., before the annexation of Bengal. It seems clear then that the presence of the "cinque foil" on the Murshidābād coins cannot be taken as evidence that those coins belong to the British series, as that mark appears on Mughal issues from Murshidābād some years before any mint was founded at Calcutta, and the right of coinage was assumed by the Company. The Calcutta mint must, therefore, have borrowed the "cinquefoil" from Murshidābād under the Mughals.

To summarise the above remarks, two special features of interest appear to me to be disclosed in the Dinājpur find—(1) the conclusive evidence that the "cinquefoil" mint mark is of earlier than Calcutta origin and cannot therefore be a guide to the classification of the "British series" coins; (2) the inferential evidence afforded by the mint marks on the coins and indirectly supported by other material that the closing of the Murshidābād mint occurred in the 10th regnal year of Shah'Alam or 1768-69 A.D., and that before that date native style Murshidābād rupees were struck at Murshidābād only and after that date at Calcutta only.

H. N. WRIGHT.

V.-MISCELLANEOUS.

29. Note regarding a silver coin found near Gargāon in the Sibsāgar district. (With plate.)

The specimen sent to me for inspection is a square coin weighing 175 grains. The edges have been clean cut, and the general appearance of the coin is of one which has apparently been recently struck.

The coin contains the following inscriptions:-

Obverse

Reverse

Siva Singha Shāh and also the Struck at Gargāon in 1651, moon-faced Begam Pramatheswari being the 15th year of (the Shāh. king's) auspicious reign.

The year 1651 is of the Sáka Era which corresponds to A.D. 1729. Siva Singha was an Ahom king who reigned from Sáka 1636 to Sáka 1666 (A.D. 1714-1744) according to Kaşi Nath Tamuli Phukon's Buranji.

The interesting point about the coin is the Persian inscription which is unusual, coins of this period generally bearing an inscription in the Assamese character and being octagonal in shape, not square. The tiger or rather dragon occurs on all the Ahom coins It will be observed that the coin bears the name of the Queen Pramatheswari in addition to that of the Rājā, the explanation being as follows: At a period in Ṣiva Singha's reign the Parbatia Gossain and certain Pandits predicted disaster to the reigning Prince who, in consequence, abdicated in favour of his Queen Phuleswari whose name was then changed to Pramatheswari. The Queen's name was then struck on the coins in conjunction with that of her consort the Rājā Ṣiva Singha (see page 132 of Gunabhiram Barua's Buranji, Calcutta edition).

P. R. T. GURDON.

The find contained no less than 143 of these coins.

H. N. W.

30. A local copper currency in the Dewās State, Central India. (With plate.)

The following note has been communicated by the Minister to His Highness the Raja of Dewās, Junior Branch, through Mr. W. E. Jardine, formerly Assistant to the Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. Similar notes on the other local currencies alluded to in the Minister's memorandum would be interesting, it being desirable to preserve records of such local currencies before they disappear under the spread of British Indian coinage.

H. N. W.

"Inquiry into the payment of wages to relief-labourers has forced

I The following would appear to be a more literal translation: "The coin of Siva Singha Shāh resembling the sun is struck by order of the Queen Pramatheswari Shāh."—H. N. W.